

STARS AND STRIPES

Friday, June 13, 2003

A news digest for U.S. forces serving overseas

Troops boost security at African hot spots

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER

Stars and Stripes

NAVAL STATION ROTA, Spain — Small teams of Europe-based American troops are in Liberia and Mauritania to boost security at U.S. embassies and help evacuate American citizens who wish to leave.

A mix of Special Operations and conventional forces on Friday helped the State Department evacuate the latest group of Americans from civil war-torn Liberia. They flew from the Liberian capital of Monrovia by a civilian helicopter contracted by the U.S. government to Sierra Leone, U.S. European Command spokeswoman Lt. Col. M.J. Jadick said Friday.

On Monday, U.S. troops helped in a French-led evacuation in Liberia, helping 83 Americans leave. So far, 129 Americans have fled the country, where Liberian soldiers have been battling rebels to oust President Charles Taylor.

American forces from Europe arrived in the two besieged African countries over the past week for what the military is calling Operation Shining Express.

Meanwhile, the Stuttgart, Germany-based EUCOM has a small assessment team standing by to evacuate Americans in Mauritania, a Sahara Desert country in western Africa. Last Sunday, rebels failed in a coup attempt against the government and fighting reached within two miles of the U.S. Embassy in the capital of Nouakchott.

About 300 U.S. troops are in the region to provide security and help Americans leave Liberia. The names of their units were not released for security concerns.

Joining them soon will be about 3,000 sailors and Marines aboard the USS Kearsarge.



JUSTIN D. PYLE/Courtesy of U.S. Air Force

A U.S. Special Operations Security Team leader guides U.S. citizens as they depart the American Embassy in Monrovia, Liberia, during Operation Shining Express. The U.S. European Command is currently augmenting security forces at the embassy and supporting State Department officials who are conducting an orderly departure of U.S. citizens who wish to leave the country.

sarge. The Navy diverted the amphibious assault ship to the region to help in case State Department officials ordered all Americans to leave.

President Bush sent troops to the region at the request of the U.S. ambassador to Liberia. The State Department has recommended that American citizens leave the country due to the rising tensions. Clashes between the Liberian government and rebel forces have put the U.S. Embassy in the capital of Monrovia on alert.

Although the evacuation is voluntary, or what the U.S. military preferred to call "an orderly departure," American forces are prepared to evacuate more American citizens if conditions worsen.

While U.S. forces are equipped for combat, President Bush wrote in the letter to

Congress dated June 9 that they were being sent "solely for the purpose of protecting American citizens and property."

On June 7, the first group of troops arrived in Freetown, Sierra Leone. A day later, most of them moved to Monrovia to protect U.S. citizens and evacuate them, if necessary.

Fixed-wing aircraft and their crews also were pre-positioned in Dakar, Senegal, to allow U.S. forces a quicker response time for an evacuation, Bush wrote. He added that the teams would leave as soon as threats to the embassy had subsided or, if necessary, an evacuation is complete.

The operation will delay the much-anticipated homecoming of the Kearsarge.

The ship was on its way home to Virginia and had planned on making a port visit

in southwestern Spain. It was scheduled to arrive in Norfolk, Va., on June 26 after dropping off about 2,000 Marines at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The ship is part of Amphibious Task Force East, which was deployed in January to support the war on terrorism and the war in Iraq.

Earlier this month, the Kearsarge and Marines from the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade cruised to the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aqaba to support Bush's visits to Egypt and Jordan. The president was in the Middle East to meet with Arab leaders.

They stood by prepared to evacuate and treat the president and his staff in case of an emergency.

Before the order came, the ship had planned to visit Malta for its first port visit of the deployment. They were to pull into Rota until the Navy ordered the ship to Liberia.

News tracker: What's new with old news

States

Monkeypox in Wisconsin: Officials are investigating whether two Wisconsin health care workers may have contracted monkeypox from patients, in what would be the first known transmission of the virus from one human to another in the United States.

Until now, health officials investigating the week-long outbreak in the United States have said that the virus was being spread by pet prairie dogs. But the disease can also be transmitted from one person to another, something that has happened in Africa.

Freddie Mac shakeup: Treasury Secretary John Snow urged tighter regulation of Freddie Mac, the home mortgage company under criminal investigation by federal prosecutors, and its larger sister in the mortgage market, Fannie Mae.

Amid rising concern about Freddie Mac's accounting problems and criticism by lawmakers of special pay packages being given to top executives ousted in a surprise shakeup, the government-sponsored company took out full-page ads in major newspapers Friday assuring that it is safe and strong and outlining actions it has taken in recent days. The shakeup announced Monday also raised concern about a possible impact on the housing market.

Missing Massachusetts lifeguard: Two teenagers came upon a cabin in the woods in Ware, Mass., that was filled with pornographic magazines and videos and had a note tacked to the outside door warning people to stay out unless they wanted to end up like Molly Bish, shortly after she disappeared in June 2000, according to a published report.

Authorities know about the cabin and have investigated the person who was living there at the time of Bish's disappearance, Worcester District Attorney John J. Conte told The Boston Globe.

Laci Peterson murder trial: A judge in the Laci Peterson murder case issued a gag order barring lawyers, witnesses and police officers from publicly discussing details about the killing of the young pregnant woman.

The ruling came the same day another judge in Stanislaus County, Calif., Superior Court ordered eight search warrants and related documents in the case unsealed, but postponed their release until July 8.

War on terrorism

U.S. troops attacked: In a continuing spate of attacks against coalition troops in Afghanistan, three rockets were fired at U.S. forces' outposts, causing no injury or damage, a U.S. military spokesman said Friday.

One rocket hit near a base at Orgun-E in eastern Paktika province Thursday night, U.S. military spokesman Col. Rodney Davis said in a statement from Bagram, where the U.S. military operation is headquartered. Two rockets also hit near the forward operating base at Salerno in the Khost province Thursday, he added.

Philippine violence: President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said Friday she is still open to resuming peace talks with Muslim separatist rebels — but won't agree to any preconditions for a cease-fire.

The Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels extended a 10-day unilateral cease-fire that ended Thursday for another 10 days in response to a request by Malaysia, which has brokered the peace talks.

The rebels have warned they would resume operations if the government did not fulfill alleged commitments to withdraw troops from a former guerrilla base and recall arrest warrants against top leaders, including MILF chairman Salamat Hashim.

World

New fighting in the Congo: French troops leading an international force moved to the outskirts of war-ravaged Bunia, Congo, town on Friday after fresh tribal fighting broke out.

The clashes began near Hoho, 3 miles south of Bunia, after as many as 100 gunmen from a faction of the Lendu tribe tried to move on Bunia, which is controlled by a Hema faction known as the Congolese Union of Patriots, or UPC.

South Korean anniversary sparks protests: Hundreds of students shouting anti-American slogans traded kicks and punches with police in sporadic clashes in downtown Seoul on Friday, as activists marked the first anniversary of the deaths of two teenage girls struck by a U.S. military vehicle.

Key Serb war crimes suspect arrested: Dozens of riot

police and hardline nationalists were injured early Friday in fierce battles over the arrest of a fugitive war crimes suspect.

The arrest of Col. Veselin Sljivancanin, 50, was made hours after an elite police unit raided a five-story building in suburban Belgrade where he was living, a statement from Serbia's Interior Ministry said.

Sljivancanin, who was indicted by the U.N. war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, ultimately was captured by police who broke through a steel-reinforced door to reach him, authorities said.

SARS earns Canada WHO citation: Taiwanese officials began investigating Friday whether the island has been underreporting SARS deaths, while Canada was accused of failing to tell a U.S. traveler he was exposed to the virus before returning home.

Meanwhile, the world's two biggest SARS hotspots — China and Hong Kong — reported no new cases Friday. But Hong Kong said a pair of women, aged 70 and 73, died from severe acute respiratory syndrome.

German politician's death: Hundreds of supporters paid final respects Friday to a scandal-tainted German politician who died in a parachute jump while under investigation for alleged tax evasion and fraud.

Some 1,500 friends and supporters filed past Jürgen Moellemann's coffin Friday in his home town of Muenster before a family burial. Members of his sky-diving club served as pall bearers, though Free Democratic leaders stayed away after Moellemann's widow appeared to blame them for his death.

Military

Air Force promotions: The Senate on Thursday approved the promotions of 127 Air Force captains and majors that had been stalled by Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, in a showdown over transport planes he wanted at an Air National Guard base in his state.

Craig had been holding up 212 of the nominations, but relented under pressure from the White House. He is continuing to delay approval of nominations of 85 colonels and generals, including Maj. Gen. John W. Rosa Jr., who was picked to lead the Air Force Academy, which has been damaged by a rape scandal in recent months.

From The Associated Press

Air Force cuts staff at Tuzla, contracts work

BY IVANA AVRAMOVIC

Stars and Stripes

EAGLE BASE, Bosnia and Herzegovina — Eight years after taking over the airfield operations, the active-duty Air Force will leave most of its work here to contractors.

The mission has stabilized, said Col. Kent Williams, the commander of 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group, and three companies have been contracted to take over airfield operations, air traffic control, security and weather forecasting.

"Our mission here is such that contractors can provide excellent service and contribute in saving the Air Force the manpower and money in the long run," Williams said. "We don't have to have blue suits here."

Only three of about 50 airmen stationed at Eagle Base

— or Tuzla Air Base, the Air Force side of the house — will remain with the new contractor force.

A change of name comes along with the reduction. The 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group is reduced to Detachment 1 of the 401st Air Expeditionary Wing, commanded by a lieutenant colonel in Sarajevo, all under the 16th Air Force, in Aviano, Italy.

With this move to contractors, the Air Force will save about 40 highly deployable positions, some of which are security force, air traffic control and weather forecasting.

"It took a lot of manpower to run the operation here," Williams said.

The all-time-high number of airmen reached some 400 during the war in Kosovo. The Air Force ran a radar sight and Predator missions from Tuzla Air Base then.

The numbers gradually decreased coming to under 50 before the transition to contractors.

Running on 90-day rotations for all positions, other than commanders, of 135 to 170 days, it took about 300 airmen a year to support the mission.

"That was a lot of people who had to be generated to come here," Williams said. "They can now be used in other places."

The Air Force had switched to contractors providing certain services years ago. Brown & Root has been providing airfield, passenger terminal and weather observation support.

The company will now also handle air traffic control, airfield management and weather forecasting. Mantech will take over communications. ITT, which already provides

guards at American base camps in Bosnia, has taken over the security of the airfield. Mantech and ITT already had contracts for services with the Army.

The \$2.4 million-a-year contract extension for the three companies goes toward covering the contractors' pay. The Air Force still owns the airfield and still pays for its maintenance, Williams said.

The decision to use contractors came in February from Gen. Gregory S. Martin, commander of United States Air Forces in Europe. That gave Williams just 2½ months, from March to May, to complete the process.

The three remaining Air Force positions include two weather jobs and one in airfield operations.

The switch is expected to be completed mid-July.

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Panel OKs Medicare plan; Senate approval next step

BY LAURA MECKLER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Legislation providing prescription drug coverage for millions of Medicare recipients won strong bipartisan endorsement from a Senate committee, as lawmakers sensed they finally would make good on years of campaign promises to the nation's elderly.

"The legislation has tremendous momentum. It's going to pass. It's going to be enacted. The president is going to sign it," said Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont.

The Senate Finance Committee's bill gives private companies a significant role in Medicare, particularly in delivering prescription drugs, and the legislation would install the most far-reaching changes to the program since it was created in 1965.

It cleared the panel Thursday on a 16-5 vote. Next stop was the Senate floor, where leaders set aside two weeks for debate to start Monday. Lawmakers hoped to send President Bush a bill this summer for his signature.

"The conventional wisdom was that a Senate split almost right down the middle couldn't be expected to produce anything," said Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, who helped craft the measure.

Not so, he said: "We're here to deliver."

Across the Capitol, House Republicans unveiled their Medicare bill. The bills differ in detail but not at their core. The House plan would move the program much further toward a competitive model driven by the private sector, a change Republicans have long advocated and is sure to stir opposition.

For the second day running, Bush called on Congress to send him legislation.

"We've got a problem with Medicare," the president said at a Connecticut hospital. "There's story after story after story, all across America, about people wondering whether or not they can afford lifesaving drugs in their later years."

In the Senate, some Democrats protested that the bill offered a drug benefit far stingier than most working Americans enjoy, and warned Congress not to overpromise. Legislators were given \$400 billion over 10 years under GOP spending plans already in place; Democrats would like more.

Under both House and Senate bills, all 40 million Medicare beneficiaries would receive equal drug coverage, no matter what type of health plan they choose.

Seoul on N. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea warned Friday that a further escalation of nuclear tensions by North Korea would disrupt joint economic projects that could bring badly needed investment to the communist North.

The warning by South Korean Unification Minister Jeong Se-hyun indicates a toughening of Seoul's stance toward North Korea in tandem with the United States, Japan and Australia, which have been increasing pressure on the North to abandon its suspected development of nuclear weapons.

Sub accident fallout

BEIJING — China said Friday it had demoted a fleet commander and dismissed or demoted nine other navy officers over a submarine accident that killed 70 sailors, in a rare break from the secrecy that traditionally shrouds China's military.

In a brief dispatch, the official Xinhua News Agency said those demoted included Ding Yiping, the commander of the North Sea Fleet to which the ill-fated submarine belonged, and fleet political commissar Chen Xianfeng.

Calif. lawmakers push to limit state-owned SUVs

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Lawmakers are promoting a bill that would eliminate thousands of sport utility vehicles from California's fleet of 73,000 state-owned vehicles and encourage other states to limit use of gas guzzlers.

Under the proposed legislation, state agencies and universities would only be allowed to purchase or lease SUV's for emergency use, law enforcement or security purposes. The bill would also require agencies to report the number and type of vehicles they own.

About seven percent of California's state-owned vehicles are SUVs, which cost more and consume more gasoline than smaller, more fuel-efficient cars, state officials said.

"We can move the state's fleet in a safer, healthier direction," said bill author and Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, a San Francisco Democrat. "It's a symbol to both Michigan and its auto industry and other state legislatures."

The bill aims to reduce air pollution, save tax dollars, increase road safety and lessen dependence on oil, according to state officials and environmental groups that support its adoption.

Burton said that the law would make California the first state to restrict state purchasing and leasing of SUVs. He hopes to introduce the bill as part of an existing piece of legislation during the current assembly session because the deadline to introduce new bills this year has already passed.

At a time when California faces severe budget problems, the legislation would save an estimated \$14.3 million in its first five years if the state reduced its annual SUV purchases by 75 percent, according to the state treasurer's office.

Burton was joined Thursday in San Francisco by former "Seinfeld" actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus, who said SUV's aren't necessary for many of the daily tasks performed by the state.

Burglar can sue

LONDON — A burglar on Friday won the right to sue a farmer who shot him after he broke into the farmer's house.

Homeowner Tony Martin, 57, is serving a five-year sentence for shooting to death 16-year-old Fred Barras with a pump-action shotgun at his remote farmstead near Emneth in eastern England on Aug. 20, 1999, and injuring Brendon Fearon, Barras' accomplice.

News reports said Fearon, who is serving a three-year sentence for conspiracy to burglarize the house, hopes to sue Martin for \$24,000. He argues that his injuries, including a leg wound, have affected his ability to enjoy sex and the martial arts and contends that he is suffering from post-traumatic stress.

From The Associated Press

Furyk on top with low record

Open leader in clubhouse with mark for 36 holes

BY RICK GANO

The Associated Press

OLYMPIA FIELDS, Ill. — Jim Furyk shot a 66 Friday to take the early second-round lead at the U.S. Open and set a record for the first two rounds.

After an opening-day 67, Furyk's 133 total was the lowest score for the first 36 holes in U.S. Open history.

The previous low in the first two rounds was 134 held by four players — Jack Nicklaus in 1980; Tze-Chung Chen in 1985; Lee Janzen in 1993 and Tiger Woods in 2000.

First-day co-leader Tom Watson, coming off a 5-under 65, was near the top until a double bogey on the 12th hole, the same one he eagled Thursday with a 6-iron from 171 yards. He finished with a 2-over 72 and was four strokes behind Furyk.

Watson, a sentimental favorite of the galleries at Olympia Fields, regrouped for a birdie at No. 14. But he finished with a bogey on the 18th when he hit his second shot out of the rough into the bunker and then two-putted the par 4.

"Today was more of a struggle," Watson said. "Yesterday I was full tilt. Today I was treading water."

Nick Price shot a 65 and Eduardo Romero a 66, putting them three strokes back with two-day totals of 136.

Brett Quigley, who shared the lead with Watson after round one, faltered with a second-day 74, leaving him six shots behind Furyk.

Furyk's second round at the U.S. Open a year ago at Bethpage was one he'd like to forget, an 80 that forced him to miss the cut. He got off to a fast start Friday with a birdie on the par-5, 576-yard first hole, the longest one on the North Course. He finished with four birdies.

Watson shot an even-par 36 on the front nine before his double bogey at No. 12.

He was greeted with a rousing ovation when he moved from the practice green to the first tee with caddie Bruce Edwards, who has Lou Gehrig's disease.

Players were rooting for Watson along with the crowds.

"It's pretty special. He's a fan favor-

"I feel very good about how I managed my game today. ... I got it around and kept myself in the tournament."

Tiger Woods

ite," Furyk said. "He's someone who has been great for golf for a lot of years."

Watson had a bogey on the par-4 No. 5, but recovered with a birdie at No. 8 to stay close to the top of the leaderboard.

Tiger Woods had an afternoon start for Friday's second round, a day after he needed his best three shots of the day to avoid another opening round in a major championship without a birdie.

A 305-yard drive that split the fairway. A 3-iron that faded toward the flag and stopped 25 feet from the hole. A putt that fell for eagle, followed by a fist pump — a rare sight for him Thursday in the U.S. Open.

It wasn't enough for Woods to break par on the easiest first-round scoring conditions in 10 years at the U.S. Open, but he had few complaints.

Given the way he hit the ball off the tee, his even-par 70 could have been much worse.

"I feel very good about how I managed my game today," Woods said. "I didn't hit the ball off the tee as well as I needed to, but I got it around and kept myself in the tournament."

That wasn't the case two months ago at the Masters. Woods went without a birdie in his first-round 76 and never got within three strokes of the lead the rest of the way in his bid to become the first

player to win three straight green jackets.

Woods is trying to become only the seventh repeat winner of the U.S. Open, and he started the second round five shots behind Tom Watson and Brett Quigley. Fans flocked to see Watson, wondering whether he could recapture his championship form of the past.

"Wonders never cease. You don't expect a 53-year-old golfer to be tied for the lead in the U.S. Open, do you?" Watson asked after his inspirational first round.

Justin Leonard and Jay Don Blake were a stroke back after the first day, while defending champion Tiger Woods trailed by five strokes after an even-par 70 that included an eagle and two bogeys.

Watson turned back the clock at a tournament he won in 1982, and his round Thursday featured two shots for the ages.

His 171-yard eagle with a 6-iron on the 12th was remarkable. And his 45-foot birdie putt on No. 7, two holes before the end of his round, showed what kind of day it was.

The ball sat tantalizingly on the lip for several seconds before dropping, and Watson did a little jig before doffing his cap.

"When that ball fell in, that was something special," Watson said. "It stopped short and people were groaning. I'm walking up to it and said, 'That is so close, how could it not be in?' And then, hey, it went in." the U.S. Open.

Can Watson keep it up? Be the player he once was for four straight rounds? "I am the guy I used to be. I don't have to remember. Maybe it's just for one round, you never know. But let's find out after Sunday," he said.

Making Watson's day even more emotional was Edwards, who was diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease in January.

"Bruce doesn't have a lot of time left. He knows the situation," Watson said.

Watson and Edwards have been together for most of the last 30 years and both were misty eyed as they neared the last green, remembering all the good times they've had, including the 1982 Open win.

"It was wonderful," Edwards said.

Scores/standings

American League

	East Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
New York	37	28	.569	—
Boston	36	28	.563	1/2
Toronto	37	30	.552	1
Baltimore	30	34	.469	6 1/2
Tampa Bay	22	42	.344	14 1/2
	Central Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
Minnesota	37	27	.578	—
Kansas City	31	31	.500	5
Chicago	29	36	.446	8 1/2
Cleveland	26	38	.406	11
Detroit	16	47	.254	20 1/2
	West Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
Seattle	42	21	.672	—
Oakland	35	29	.547	8
Anaheim	33	30	.524	9 1/2
Texas	26	38	.406	17

Thursday's interleague games

N.Y. Yankees 6, Houston 5
Atlanta 4, Oakland 2
Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
St. Louis 8, Boston 7, 13 innings
Baltimore 6, Chicago Cubs 1
San Diego 9, Cleveland 4
Los Angeles 3, Detroit 2
Cincinnati 2, Tampa Bay 1
Minnesota 15, Colorado 3
N.Y. Mets 11, Texas 0
Arizona at Kansas City, ppd., rain
San Francisco 8, Chicago White Sox 4
Seattle 1, Montreal 0

National League

	East Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
Atlanta	44	20	.688	—
Montreal	39	27	.591	6
Philadelphia	34	31	.523	10 1/2
Florida	31	36	.463	14 1/2
New York	29	35	.453	15
	Central Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
Chicago	36	28	.563	—
Houston	37	29	.561	—
St. Louis	35	29	.547	1
Cincinnati	33	32	.508	3 1/2
Milwaukee	26	38	.406	10
Pittsburgh	25	38	.397	10 1/2
	West Division			GB
	W	L	Pct	
San Francisco	41	24	.631	—
Los Angeles	37	28	.569	4
Colorado	33	34	.493	9
Arizona	31	34	.477	10
San Diego	20	47	.299	22

Thursday's games

N.Y. Yankees 6, Houston 5
Milwaukee 6, Florida 5
Atlanta 4, Oakland 2
Toronto 5, Pittsburgh 4
St. Louis 8, Boston 7, 13 innings
Baltimore 6, Chicago Cubs 1
San Diego 9, Cleveland 4
Los Angeles 3, Detroit 2
Cincinnati 2, Tampa Bay 1
Minnesota 15, Colorado 3
N.Y. Mets 11, Texas 0
Arizona at Kansas City, ppd., rain
San Francisco 8, Chicago White Sox 4
Seattle 1, Montreal 0

From The Associated Press

TENNIS

LONDON — Andre Agassi is set to be No. 1 again.

Agassi beat Xavier Malisse 6-3, 7-5 at Queen's Club on Friday to reach the semifinals of the grass-court Wimbledon warmup.

The victory — coupled with Lleyton Hewitt's 6-3, 6-4 loss to Sebastian Grosjean — means Agassi will move up one spot to No. 1 in next week's rankings. Hewitt will slip to No. 2.

"I wasn't aware of that," Agassi said. "It feels amazing to accomplish it at this stage of my career, but I'd rather be No. 1 in my match tomorrow. One at a time."

Fellow American Andy Roddick is up next in the semifinals. Roddick beat Taylor Dent 6-3, 7-6 (3).

Agassi is now in line to be seeded No. 1 for Wimbledon, which begins June 23. The seeds will be announced Monday.

In April, the 33-year-old Agassi became the oldest man to be ranked No. 1. But he fell from the top spot the following week after losing to David Ferrer in the first round of the Italian Open.

In another quarterfinal, seventh-seeded Tim Henman of Britain beat Anthony Dupuis of France 6-1, 6-4. He faces Grosjean in the semifinals Saturday.

Agassi, who won Wimbledon in 1992, went up a

Sports in brief

break in the first set when Malisse double-faulted. He then withstood a barrage of aces from the Belgian, who hit four in a row to take a 5-4 lead in the second set.

Malisse netted a forehand at 5-5 to give Agassi the only break and a chance to serve out for a comfortable victory. In all, Malisse had 16 aces.

"There's a lot of different ways to hold serve," Agassi said. "Hitting four aces is definitely one of them. 'It's happened to me a few times. I don't enjoy it.'"

COLLEGE SPORTS

HARTFORD, Conn. — The attorney general of Virginia was added Thursday to the Big East lawsuit seeking to stop the Atlantic Coast Conference's expansion plans.

In a move that could increase pressure on all ACC schools — especially Virginia — attorney general Jerry Kilgore signed on to motions filed by plaintiffs Pittsburgh, Connecticut, West Virginia, Virginia Tech and Rutgers.

The lawsuit, filed against the ACC, Miami and Bos-

ton College last Friday in state Superior Court, seeks millions of dollars and an injunction to stop the two schools from moving from the Big East to the ACC. Syracuse is also a candidate to jump to the ACC.

If the ACC plan goes forward, it would put Virginia in a strong, 12-team league, but would leave Virginia Tech in a stripped-down Big East.

Attorneys general in West Virginia and Connecticut are already listed in the case.

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State University trustees will hear recommendations for sweeping changes in the athletic department and a shakeup of the school's athletic board in the wake of a gambling investigation, a source familiar with the report said.

Some university officials will be reprimanded as a result of the review, the source, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said.

Athletic director David Hart Jr. and assistant directors Andy Urbanic and Bob Minnix were criticized in an earlier report for how the university handled gambling allegations involving former Seminoles quarterback Adrian McPherson.

More than 50 recommendations for operational changes are included in the report, which was to be presented to the trustees at a meeting Friday.

From The Associated Press